

THE ADVOCATE



AAUW Advances Equity for Women and Girls Through
Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research

Issue 6 • February, 2011

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EDUCATIONAL FELLOWSHIP SPEAKER, FEBRUARY 22



Tam Ma, daughter of a 1979 Vietnamese boat person, will be the featured speaker at the joint Delta Kappa Gamma-Zeta Zeta-AAUW meeting on Tuesday, February 22 at Scott's Seafood, 1333 N. California Blvd., Walnut Creek.

Today this young woman, a 2010-2011 AAUW Selected Professions Fellows recipient, is in her third year of law school at UC Berkeley and is a judicial extern for the Hon. Kimberly Mueller, Magistrate Judge of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California. Ma was also featured in the Fall, 2010 issue of the *California PERSPECTIVE*, AAUW-CA's newsletter. Prior to working for

Judge Mueller, Ma was a policy consultant to State Senator Sheila Kuehl. Ma is upbeat, inspirational and motivated to work in social justice.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honorary Society of women educators. Zeta Zeta is a California chapter of key women teachers who join with AAUW-Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch on their Educational Fellowship programs.

Please join us on Tuesday, February 22 at Scott's Seafood Grill & Bar, 1333 N. California Blvd., Walnut Creek. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. Tam Ma will speak at 7 p.m. Please select your meal from the following menu:

Imperial Salmon

with mascarpone cheese and spinach, leek and lemon cream sauce

or

Sliced Chicken Sienna

with wild mushrooms, leeks and fontina cheese, poppy seed-Dijon beurre blanc

Vegetarian is available upon request.

Fresh lemon tart, coffee, tea and bread are included.

Cost: \$33.50, including tip.

Mail checks made out to DKG along with your selection to:

Bobbie Mortensen, 133 Sedgefield Ct., San Ramon, CA 94583
(925) 829-5635 or bjcantillo@sbcglobal.net.

RSVP DEADLINE: Reservations must be postmarked by Saturday, February 12.



PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

BY MARY MIX and MARCIA STEINHARDT
CO-PRESIDENTS

How much time have you spent curled up in front of your fireplace these cold winter evenings reading a good book? We would love to hear about a most inspiring read you may have enjoyed centered around a strong female personality. This is not to include Steig Larsson's trilogy. We have both read wonderful novels that fall in this category that we will share with you next month. Please e-mail us with your most recent favorite and we will publish these titles in next month's Advocate.



Marcia Steinhardt
Co-President



Mary Mix
Co-President

We want to thank Pat Gross and Karen Large for the outstanding "Women's Self Defense" program presented by Pedro Bernardy last month. It was most informative and we all enjoyed the wonderful tour of the new Walnut Creek library. It was inspiring to find sections of the library in which several of our AAUW members were honored.

On tap for this month is the joint AAUW/DKG dinner program featuring Educational Foundation fellow, Tam Ma, at Scott's Seafood in Walnut Creek. Tam is the daughter of a Vietnamese boat person and is pursuing her studies at UC Berkeley. She is quite an inspiring and excellent speaker. We urge all of you to join us for this wonderful opportunity to see first hand how our Garden Tour proceeds are being used.

We're generally in favor of sunny weather but on February 2 we do hope that the groundhog doesn't see his shadow. If he does, we'll have a few more books to read. ❖

AAUW FUNDS/EF

UPDATES

BY JACQUE SCHUBERT AND DIANNE TINNES
CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, AAUW FUNDS/EF

Update on the Tena Gallagher Research & Projects Grant #4353: Through the generosity of our Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch members and the proceeds of our 2010 Garden Tour, we have been able to donate \$19,800 towards the **\$75,000 Tena Gallagher R&P Grant in 2010. What an amazing achievement for a grant only in existence since last July!! Kudos and Thanks.**

Another way that AAUW Funds supports our mission is the Public Policy Fund, which supports advocacy for public policies and laws that are fair to women. Public policy programs include 1) **Government Relations:** AAUW advocates on Capitol Hill and in the White House, ensuring that our voices are heard in the halls of Congress and at the tables of power when decisions that affect women and girls are made. 2) **Civic Engagement,** which helps women act as their own advocates by providing members with the information and tools to build robust woman-to-woman voter registration and turnout drives in their communities. 3) **Field Organizing,** which engages individuals and branches in public policy advocacy through Impact Grants, Action Network, the Two-Minute Activist program and *Washington Update*.

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PUBLIC POLICY

CALIFORNIA-A STATE IN SEARCH OF NEW REVENUE

BY CYNTHIA SAVELL
PUBLIC POLICY

In this period of dire economic need, the state of California is now anxiously searching for any new sources of revenue. Here is just one of the many suggestions citizens are putting forth. Many citizens and experts are wondering why this oil rich state has never had an oil severance tax. California is among the highest-volume oil producing states in the country. The California oil companies extract oil and gas from under land and water without paying any royalties. Most oil rich states do have such a tax. Alaska has an extra generous oil profits tax that even benefits each of its citizens monetarily. The federal government also gets an 18.75% royalty from waters just ten miles off the California coast.

In 2006, Proposition 87, which included an oil severance tax, was defeated by Chevron and other big oil companies in a massive campaign. But this is now, and as California comes to grips with its deepest revenue needs ever, it must stand up to Big Oil to demand this tax.

California faces a \$25.4 billion budget gap for the 2011-2012 fiscal year, and fixing the budget problems will not be accomplished in a single year, or perhaps several years. However, by chipping away now, the state must begin this serious and painful process. The big oil companies of California pay less than ordinary state corporate taxes now, and their property taxes are limited under Proposition 13, so a severance tax, similar to those of other oil rich states, would not make drastic inroads into their immense profits. It is time for the California legislature to see that this happens and pull out all the stops to make this appeal to California voters. Against the might of the oil lobbying effort, with all their millions, the voters must understand and be willing to pass this legislation.

The new Governor of California has had to make many painful cuts into education, health and social services; extend sales, income and auto taxes for five more years; and shift some programs to local governments in his new budget proposals. Its ramifications will be felt by all of us. With cooperation among members of the California Legislature, the special election in June will begin the process. ❖

EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS (EYH)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

BY JO ANNE DAHLIN AND DEBI STEIN
EYH CO-CHAIRS

The annual Tri-Valley EYH Math and Science day has arrived. It is happening Saturday, February 26 at the new DVC-San Ramon Campus, 1609 Watermill Rd., San Ramon. This year's theme is **Learn, Explore, Experience, Dream**, and the Keynote speaker is Courtney LeBoeuf, an environmental attorney. Brochures were distributed at the end of January and registration for the work-

shops is open until February 19. If you know any 6th through 9th grade girls in the area who might be interested, they can obtain conference information and register at <http://tveyh.org> as well as through their school office. Further information is available on the national web site at <http://www.expandingyourhorizons.org>.

We look forward to a great inspiring day at the career fair, a special activity and the many interesting workshops that have been scheduled. Our branch is providing the workshops and special activities with monitors. We still have some slots available. The commitment is less than two hours and can be in the morning from 9:30-11 or in the afternoon from 1-2:30. If you wish to volunteer please contact JoAnne Dahlin at jdahlin@sbcglobal.net or Debi Zauner Stein at DAZauner@gmail.com. We look forward to you joining us. ❖

Danville-Alamo AAUW

GOOD DEEDS

to benefit and support those so deserving

BETTER PROGRAMS

to bolster our interest and raise our awareness

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MARCH PROGRAM

REMEMBER THE LADIES!

PAT GROSS and KAREN LARGE

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, PROGRAMS

Remember the Ladies!" the battle cry of California's suffragists will be heard again when members of the Museum of San Ramon Valley re-enact women achieving the right to vote in California 100 years ago. The local 45-minute historical drama will be held during the general membership luncheon **Saturday, March 12** from 11-3 P.M. at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville.

This centennial program will highlight local women of the San Ramon Valley and early 19th and 20th century suffrage movements which accomplished this historic feat. California's vote in 1911 pioneered passage of the 19th Amendment on women's voting rights nationwide. AAUW is recognizing this achievement by early California women nationally and statewide.

This local presentation kicks off a *Remember the Ladies* exhibit set to run May to June at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley.

Registration and social hour begin at 11 A.M. General Meeting and luncheon start at Noon followed at 1:30 p.m. with the "Remember the Ladies!" performance. Cost of the luncheon is \$26 in advance (\$30 after March 4 deadline.) Meal includes choice of entrees: **Sunburst Chicken Salad** or **Chicken and Prawn Chinese Salad**, iced tea, coffee, rolls and dessert. Please specify entree choice with registration.

Show your colors! Attendees are invited to wear red, white and blue.

Checks should be mailed by March 4 and made payable to Danville-Alamo AAUW, 606 Bridgewater Cir., Danville, CA 94526. Designate preferred salad entree. For questions, contact Karen at 891-4632 or Pat at 831-8518. ❖

GREAT DECISIONS

January 21

ROSEANN RAYES KRANE, GUS SLAVIN and JOAN WARD

GREAT DECISIONS CO-CHAIRS

The **Great Decisions in Foreign Policy** sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association is a series that allows each of us to be an armchair diplomat. We read and discuss hoping for an in-depth analysis and expert opinion on the eight most critical global issues facing America in the year ahead. There are two AAUW sections in which you may participate at no cost. We meet for eight consecutive weeks on Monday nights or Tuesday afternoons. We begin the evening group on February 7 at Anne Long's at 7:30 P.M. or the afternoon group on February 8 at Roseann Krane's at 1 P.M. For further details and to RSVP please e-mail either Anne at along1024@sbcglobal.net or Roseann at rkrane@yahoo.com.

MONDAYS 7:30-9:30

February 7
February 14
February 21
February 28
March 7
March 14
March 21
March 28

TUESDAYS 1-3

February 8
February 15
February 22
March 1
March 8
March 15
March 22
March 29



Danville Community Band

Join us for our 10th season of bringing musical entertainment to the greater Danville area.

Upcoming Concerts

October 17, 2010; 3PM
A Concert for Rossmoor Residents

December 12, 2010; 3PM
East Bay Fellowship
2615 Camino Tassajara, Danville

March 6, 2011; 2PM
Blackhawk Museum
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., Danville

Look for the **Danville Community Band** on Facebook, www.danvilleband.org, or www.instantencore.com.

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NEW FILM GROUP

MARILYN MCCURDY

A new film group (the 5th for our branch) is forming. It already has 9 members with space for several more. The group will meet monthly on Monday afternoons/evenings with the first meeting to be Monday, March 14, at 4:00 P.M. at the Century 14 in downtown Walnut Creek. Immediately following the film we will discuss it during dinner at The Cheesecake Factory across the street from the theater. At this point, the group is open to members only. If you are interested in joining the group or would like more information, please contact Soni Leighton at soni@sbcglobal.net. ❖

QUILTING SECTION


DIANE LARSON

The Quilting Section has completed a year of filling sewing needs for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Children's Hospital, Oakland. The 24 baby quilts donated were given by the Unit Supervisor as gifts to families. Sewing requests completed this year were 15 double-sided flannel receiving blankets and 51 scent dolls. Scent dolls are used by nurses to help babies become aware of their mother's scent by placing the doll with the baby after the mother has worn the doll next to her skin. There are three nurseries in the NICU with about 15 beds in each one. Members wishing to help with these sewing projects can contact Mary Kelly at 837-2493 or Diane Larson at 933-5334. ❖

BEADS 2 JEWELRY - February 3



Beads2Jewelry has had several successful meetings this year. At our last session, we made a bracelet and will be doing a wire wrap pendant at the next meeting on February 3 at 1 p.m. at Roseann's. You can bring your own supplies or pay for the materials we have available. Beginners are invited. Please RSVP to rkrane@yahoo.com to attend. ❖

 GagenMcCoy	Danville Office 279 Front Street P.O. Box 218 Danville, CA 94526 Tele: (925) 837-0585 Fax: (925) 838-5985
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Sarah S. Nix Attorney at Law Gagen, McCoy, McMahon, Koss, Markowitz & Raines A Professional Corporation snix@gagenmccoy.com	

NEW MEMBER WELCOME TEA REVIEW

See Photos on Page 6

KAREN SCHLUMPP, MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

This is an unprecedented year with the addition of thirty-two new members to our Branch. New members attending the annual new member tea were joined by members of the Board to share personal stories about their interest in AAUW and to learn about interest groups, programs and key events of the Branch. This was a grand event! We are thankful for the many gifts and talents these new members bring to our Branch. The way we grow is through member referrals. Please keep it up!

Prospective members may contact Karen Schlumpp at karenschlumpp@hotmail.com or 899-6741. ❖

MOVIES n' LUNCH - February 8

Movies n' Lunch will meet on February 8 at 11:30 at Bravo Bistro, 1050 Contra Costa Blvd., Concord, between Rotten Robbie's and Mancini Furniture. The movies we will discuss this month are those associated with the Oscar nominations in the Best Picture, Director, Actor, Actress, Supporting Actor and Actress that have not previously been seen by us. For details, contact Diane Stangel at lstangel@astound.net. ❖



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*New
Member
Welcome
Tea
Saturday,
January 22, 2011*



Sharon Cohune, host



*Karen Schlumpp, Membership
Vice President*

Photos: Dora-Thea Porter



*Kathleen McKnight, Jo Harberson, Caroline
Wood, and Marcia Steinhardt, Co-President.*



*Melanie Wade, Pamela Burdusis, Debra Kass,
and JoAnne Dahlin.*

2010-11 BRANCH PROGRAMS

02/22	5:30 P.M.	Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG)/AAUW Combined Program. Featured speaker will be Tam Ma, daughter of a 1979 Vietnamese boat person. Scotts Seafood Restaurant, Walnut Creek.
03/12	11:00 A.M.	Luncheon Program. Museum of San Ramon Valley presents <i>Remember the Ladies</i> honoring 100 years of Women's Right to Vote in CA. Crow Canyon Country Club.
04/02	4:00 P.M.	LAF Program. Keynote Speaker: Leslie Levy of the five woman lawfirm of Dickson Levy Vinick Burrell Hyams LLP. She will discuss issues related to LAF.
04/08 - 04/10	---	State Convention. Irvine. 90 Years AAUW-CA, 1921-2011.
05/06 - 05/07	10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	11th Annual Garden Tour. An Educational Foundation benefit.
06/16 - 06/19	---	AAUW National Convention. Washington, DC.
June	TBA	Installation and Awards Presentation. Location to be determined.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR: SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

02/01 02/08 02/15 02/22	10:00 A.M.	Mah Jongg. Weekly meetings at various locations. Contact Paula Weintraub at pauladuck@yahoo.com
02/03	1:00 P.M.	Beads2Jewelry. Hosting: Roseann Krane. RSVP at rkrane@yahoo.com .
02/04	11:30 A.M.	Adventurous Chefs. Contact Phyllis Sheller at 280-0437. [WAIT LIST]
02/04	5:45 P.M.	Art & Garden. Dinner at Faz followed by an 8 p.m. performance of <i>The Lion in Winter</i> . Contact Bev Nidick at 828-6993 or bev2ern@comcast.net .
02/04	7:30 P.M.	First Friday Films. <i>True Grit</i> and <i>The Fighter</i> . Hosting: Iris Stone at 831-8731 or iris.stone@bankofamerica.com .
02/08	11:30 A.M.	Movies 'n Lunch. Lunch at Bravo Bistro, 1050 Contra Costa Blvd. Movies associated with Oscar nominations for discussion. See Page 5.
02/09	7:30 P.M.	Evening Bridge. For details, contact Barbara Nexson at 837-9625.
02/11	9:00 A.M.	Board Meeting. Mary Mix and Marcia Steinhardt, Co-Presidents. Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville.
02/11	7:30 P.M.	Oscar I. For details, contact Sharon Cohune at 648-5153.
02/12	---	Golf. TBA. Contact Marian Bliss at 820-4709.
02/15	---	ADVOCATE DEADLINE. E-mail your articles to Cheryl Kohleriter and Cindy Cassady by Noon today.
02/17	10:30 A.M.	Books II. <i>When the Elephants Dance</i> by Tess Uriza Holthe. Hosting: Judy Finch. Contact Doris Ringot at 934-8199 for information.
02/19	8:30 A.M.	Hiking Group. Wildcat Peak. Meet at Sycamore Park n' Ride. For details, contact Cheryl Kohleriter at cherylkohleriter@yahoo.com .
02/19	10:30 A.M.	Epicureans. Contact Judy Finch at 946-0249. [WAIT LIST]
02/21	9:30 A.M.	Daytime Party Bridge. Hosting: Betty Bryant at 735-9108.
02/22	7:30 P.M.	Evening Literature. Classic: Any book by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Hosting: Dianne Tinnes at 820-8611.
02/23	7:30 P.M.	Contemporary Books. Contact Diane Stangel at 939-0373 or lstangel@astound.net .
01/24	9:30 A.M.	Daytime Literature. <i>The 19th Wife</i> by David Ebershoff. Hosting: Clarice Hart at clarice30@att.net .
02/26	---	Expanding Your Horizons. See Page 3 for details.
02/27	5:00 P.M.	Cinema I. Academy Awards presentation. RSVP to Barbara Critchlow at 287-1543 or bacritchlow@yahoo.com .
02/28	9:30 A.M.	Daytime Duplicate Bridge. For details, contact Sandy Hoffman at 837-8759.

CO-PRESIDENTS

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Marcia Steinhardt

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Karen Large

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Roseann Krane Dora-Thea Porter



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MARCH PROGRAM

REMEMBER THE LADIES!
A Re-enactment of the
California Suffragists' Movement

General Meeting Begins at
11:00 A.M.

CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB

See Page 4 for details.

For details and updates on upcoming Branch Programs, see our website at
<http://www.aauw-da/org/program.html>